48 Ethernet Ports

Overview

A reliable, easy-to-use switch without the complexity of management, the TL-SG1048 provides 48 10/100/1000Mbps ports.

Key Takeaways

A 48-port Ethernet switch provides high-density connectivity for large networks, supporting multiple devices with options for PoE, managed control, and high-speed uplinks.Overview

A 48-port Ethernet switch is designed to connect up to 48 devices in a network, making it ideal for offices, classrooms, data centers, or collaborative workspaces . These switches come in managed, smart-managed, and unmanaged models, allowing for varying levels of control over network traffic, VLAN segmentation, Quality of Service (QoS), and security . They can be rack-mounted or desktop-mounted depending on the deployment environment.

Key Features
• Power over Ethernet (PoE): Many 48-port switches provide PoE or PoE+ capabilities, delivering both data and power over a single cable to devices like IP cameras, VoIP phones, and wireless access points . Total PoE budgets vary; for example, the NETGEAR GS348PP offers 24 PoE+ ports with a 380W budget, while the TP-Link TL-SG3452P provides 48 PoE+ ports with a 384W budget .

• Speed and Uplinks: Standard models offer Gigabit Ethernet, while advanced models include multigigabit ports and SFP/SFP+ uplinks for fiber connections, supporting high-speed backhaul and network scalability .

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• Management Options: Unmanaged switches are plug-and-play, ideal for simple setups. Smart-managed switches provide GUI-based VLAN and traffic control, while fully managed L2+ or L3 switches allow static routing, IGMP snooping, and integration with centralized SDN platforms .

• Redundancy and Reliability: Some models offer redundant power supplies or fanless designs for silent operation, though hot-swappable power is typically found in high-capacity or modular switches .

Use Cases

• Small to Medium Businesses: Connect multiple workstations, IP phones, and access points efficiently.

• Data Centers: Suitable for Top-of-Rack (ToR) or edge aggregation roles, though not typically used as core switches in large-scale deployments .

• Surveillance and Security: PoE switches can power IP cameras directly, simplifying installation and reducing cabling requirements .

• Educational and Collaborative Environments: Supports classrooms, labs, and shared workspaces with high device density.

Considerations

• PoE Budget: Ensure the total PoE power meets the requirements of all connected devices; exceeding the budget will prevent additional devices from receiving power .

• Thermal Management: High-density switches generate heat; proper ventilation or fanless designs should be considered based on deployment.

• Future Scalability: Managed switches with VLAN and SDN support allow easier network expansion and traffic segmentation.

Popular Models

• NETGEAR GS348PP: 48 Gigabit ports, 24 PoE+ ports, 380W PoE budget, plug-and-play .

• TP-Link TL-SG3452P: 48 PoE+ ports, 384W PoE budget, 4 Gigabit SFP uplinks, L2+ managed with SDN integration .

• UniFi USW-48-PoE: Layer 2 PoE switch with fanless design for silent operation .

• Dell 48-Port Multigigabit Switches: Stackable, high-speed connectivity with advanced Layer 3 features . A 48-port Ethernet switch is a cornerstone for building robust, high-capacity networks, offering flexibility, scalability, and the ability to power devices directly through PoE, making it suitable for a wide range of professional and enterprise environments .

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